[10th August 1929

(vii) *Experiments on sorting cocoons.*—A plant was purchased at a cost of Rs. 420. It is being used for demonstration and instruction to students.

(viii) *Constitution of peripatetic weaving schools.*—The scheme was dropped.

Industrial education—The initiation of a scheme of apprenticeship training in workshops.—The scheme will be considered in connexion with the budget estimates for 1930-31. Meantime twelve scholarships of the value of Rs. 20 per mensem have been instituted at the Madras Trades School for the benefit of candidates coming from the mufassal and undergoing their apprenticeship training in approved workshops in Madras.

Madras Trades School—Commencement of the IV year Printing classes.—The class was duly started during the year. An Assistant Visiting Lecturer on Rs. 2-8-0 per hour was entertained.

Opening of III year course in the Preparatory Trades School.—These classes were also opened and an assistant teacher and a demonstrator on Rs. 35—60 each were entertained.

Leather Trades Institute.—(i) *Finishing of black russet, etc.*—This is being carried on as usual. During 1928-29, 11,700 lb. of russets were dressed and 11,600 lb. of dhori hides retanned and finished.

(ii) *Experiments in aldehyde tannage of kavalai hides.*—Further experiments on this tannage have been abandoned as they did not show any special advantage over ordinary or chrome tanned hides.

(iii) *Conduct of tanning experiments on semi-commercial scale with the bark of hopea parviflora.*—A bulletin embodying the results of the experiments is in the press.

(iv) *Experiments on tannage of skins with neradol and alum, neradol and formaline and neradol and basic alum.*—Experiments have not shown sufficient improvement in quality to warrant the conduct of further work.

(v) *Study of the effects of various deliming agents on bark tannage.*—Work on this subject is still in progress; several tanners have been shown methods that improve their tannage.

(vi) *Experiments in coir production at Thopputhurai.*—Experiments have just been started at Thopputhurai, a provision of Rs. 3,000, having been made in the budget for 1929-30. Specimen fibre is available for inspection at the Leather Institute Research Office.

Kerala Soap Institute, Calicut—Manufacture of essential oils.—The proposal has been dropped.

Cottage industries—(i) *Consideration of measures to give effect to the suggestions made in the final report of the Special Officer for the Presidency.*—The Special Officer's final report is being examined in consultation with the specialist officers of the department.

(ii) *Establishment of a central emporium and an industrial museum for the products of cottage and small scale industries.*—The establishment of a central emporium for the Presidency is one of the suggestions made by the special officer and the question will be considered by Government.